

THE CONFEDERATE.

A. H. GORMAN & CO., Proprietors.

TERMS:

DAILY EDITION, for 6 months.....	\$15
" " 3 "	3
TRI-WEEKLY, for 6 months.....	10
" " 3 "	5
WEEKLY EDITION, for 6 months.....	5

No subscriptions will be received or any other terms than the above, nor for a longer or shorter period.

"An Era of Good Feeling."

There is fair ground to hope, that the people of North Carolina are about to enter upon an era when party rancor will cease to disturb the general harmony—when conciliation, mutual concession and general kindness will bury party spirit, and a cordial patriotism will carry along a united people in the work of the revolution, to wit: the achievement of our independence. It may be that from this also at universal harmony, there may be some few dissentients; but these will be the extremes of ultra and radical partisanship. Some few will never forget and forgive; they will never take in anything beyond party and self; but they are few, shorn of power, and they can now inspire but one feeling—pity for their perversions.

It was for this desirable end that this Journal was established some months ago: it is towards this end that its efforts have been constantly directed. It has faithfully striven to make itself a worthy organ of the patriotism of the State; and because of this, we have assured, the people have bestowed upon it so liberal, ample and increasing a patronage. And surely there is ample field for the labor of statesmen, in alleviating the national administration in its arduous and responsible duties, of guarding the national safety, preserving the national rights, and maintaining the national cause. Legislators and other public servants and representatives will find ample scope for their highest powers, in strengthening the defences of North Carolina, in ameliorating the condition of her poor and suffering, in providing for her sick and disabled soldiers and their destitute families, and in furnishing proper aid from her resources to the completion of the great work of resistance to the invader and oppressor. In these noble and legitimate occupations, all their time will be more usefully, more honorably spent, than by turning out of the way to foment party prejudices, to cultivate party animosities, to build up success and gratify party antipathies.

In this time of war, wherein a righteous and vindictive foe seeks to desolate our homes while slaughtering our brothers and sons, there ought to be but two parties. Our country with all her patriotic children on the one side and our enemies on the other. We will not stop to remember the past with any or whatever causes of complaint there may be in its transactions: *we hope better things for the future.* We base our hopes on the cordial and harmonious action of all classes of men in the last election, which, as the *Conservative* of this city has well said, demonstrated "the true conservatism of North Carolina; not in a party sense, but in that sense used by the Richmond *Sentinel*, which made her the model State of the nation."

We base our hopes of this coming "era of good feeling," on the teachings of the *Conservative* itself—representing, as we would fain believe it does, the present sentiments of Governor Vance, and his political friends throughout the State. In its issue of August the 8th, it says: "It is not expected or demanded of every one to approve of every thing that is done by President Davis, or the Congress, or his subordinates. We expect, as occasion may render it proper and necessary, faithfully but kindly to oppose what we disapprove. We will not, however, be a party to factions opposition, to sore-headed whining complaints, at a time like this."

Again, in its issue of August 15th, it claims to fix true conservatism in the State on the definition of the Richmond *Sentinel*, (whose article we will publish to-morrow) and claims as "eminently fit and proper, that the term 'conservative' should attach to that very large and respectable class of people in this State who are opposed to all radical and extreme measures."

And yet again, in its issue of August 19th, it uses this just and proper language: "We have never doubted the patriotism of President Davis, whatever may be our views of his wisdom as a statesman. We believe he is doing the very best he can for the good of our common country and to accomplish our independence. Whether any other man occupying his place could have done any better under the circumstances, is a proposition purely speculative, and we do not think at present it is a proper subject of newspaper discussion. It is clearly the duty of us all to hold up his hands and to assist him in every legitimate way in the great work he has before him."

We adopt this language of the *Conservative* with regard to the President, without reserving any doubt as to his wisdom, which we think has been shown as no other man in the Confederacy could have been expected to surpass. We also adopt the general sentiment conveyed above, as applicable to Gov. Vance; and we unite in the expression, that the common duty is to uphold and strengthen both of them in the discharge of their high duties. The Legislature has more than twice recorded like opinions, and the people have almost unanimously approved their action. On this score then, there is scarcely a possibility of material division.

This frank, and we had almost said magnanimous utterance from the organ of Governor Vance, followed as it has been by the "platform" heretofore published by us from

WEEKLY CONFEDERATE RATE.

VOL. I.

RALEIGH, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1864.

NO. 34.

the *Conservative* as the standard of conservatism—a platform to which Mr. Davis and his friends have always rigidly adhered, leaves no room to doubt, that there will be in North Carolina, at least till the close of the war, an absorption of all political parties into a common association, on the basis of patriotism. As a consequence of this happy reunion and general conciliation, proscription will be proscribed—no tests will be drawn from the past, for fitness or unfitness for public station; but the honest rule—"Is he true and capable," will be the elective principle. Following this legitimate principle to its logical sequence, it will be expected that faithful public servants will be retained in posts which they have filled ably and well. The late Speaker of the Senate, Mr. Mobane, will be re-elected; Mr. Donell, likewise; and Mr. Dorch will be approved for his fidelity, by the usual method of re-election, which is the custom to bestow on tried and faithful officers. Mr. Dorch has taken an excellent stand in the Senate—he has proved himself to be a practical, sound, business representative; by no means radical on any question; and he has secured the confidence of the President and his associates. It would be a fit recognition of the support of the friends of Mr. Davis in the late election, to re-elect Mr. Dorch. But if there should be reasons to prevent this, then the spirit and tone of the people as indicated by the *Conservative*, and sincerely reflected in this journal, lead us to expect that a selection will be made of some one or less removed from actual party strife; whose election will be a conciliation in itself. Such a man would be the Hon. Weldon N. Edwards; a ripe and experienced statesman of the old regime, who would carry the influence which always attaches to intellectual independence, manly, straightforwardness, and unswerving patriotism. Or, Edward J. Hale, who unselfishly rejects office, relinquishes opportunities for office, and pursues the line of close duty with so able and influential a merit, as to have become familiarized in every patriotic household in the State. Either of these selections would give universal satisfaction, we believe, among the people.

Or perhaps these gentlemen would neither consent to be drawn out of their usual avocations. Then Judge Shepherd, of Cumberland, or Mr. Gilmer, of Guilford, would be alike acceptable, as both are identified with a calm, unostentatious, unprejudiced conservatism and integrity, and were then faithful supporters of the war, and both are free from obnoxious charges, and approach nearer to the stand-pat where concession and conciliation are entrenched. We might add to these names many others equally acceptable; but our object is merely to indicate a rallying point for mutual concession. If party is abandoned, and a union is honestly formed, or a platform framed for the national and State good, the "era of good feeling" will result in a universal benefit.

The Georgia Front.

From our ex-hangers we make up the following summary of matter in this line: On Tuesday, the 6th, our forces reoccupied Jonesboro' and the entrenchments behind the same, perhaps, from which we fall back after the affair of the 1st. The trains are now running to Jonesboro', it having been made the depot of supplies for our army.

Quite a number of the enemy's badly wounded were left behind at Jonesboro' and captured by us. In their retreat the Yankees seem to have moved off with great haste and left by far the greater part of their entrenching tools behind.

It is said that Sherman promised his troops to grant furloughs liberally as soon as Atlanta was taken, and that he has now fallen back to that place from the weakness consequent on his recent losses and the absence of many of his men. It is also reported that Sherman is fortifying East Point and Decatur.

The Intelligencer says "our army is rapidly accumulating strength and numbers," and the Confederate declares that it has very pleasant rumors concerning our future prospects, which are at present contraband.

The Augusta *Constitutionalist* has a special dispatch, dated "Lovejoy's," September 9th, which says that "a ten day's truce has been agreed upon between Generals Hood and Sherman, and at the instance of the latter—the following extract from Sherman's letter explains the object: "I have deemed it to the interest of the United States that the citizens of Atlanta should remove, those who pref're to go South, and the rest North!" General Hood replies that: "the proposition is barbarous, but is acceded to through humanity." The truce begins on Monday; rough and ready the point of meeting.

Great indignation is felt throughout the army at thisoward cruelty."

The *Constitutionalist*, in speaking of this armistice, says, editorially:

Gen. Hood knows his own business best, and has beyond doubt acted under instructions from Richmond, but we cannot help thinking of Napoleon's maxim that "A general should never do what his opponent desires, for the simple reason that he does desire it."

The object in view by Sherman in his request does not appear, and every one is at lib-

erty to choose for himself such solution as may seem best. Perhaps it will not be very far from the truth to say that the main object of this armistice is to accustom us to the sound of the word and sight of the thing, as artillery batteries are trained to the flash and report before being led into battle to be shot down at the guns. It may be all right, but for one *Temo donos et domus brevitas*.

We note the arrival of Gen. T. S. Clingman in our city, a wounded soldier from the trenches about Petersburg, where he has been actively and most successfully serving our country at its most exposed and dangerous position, ever since the enemy first made his appearance on the north bank of the James river till the day he was wounded. We are glad to learn that Gen. Clingman, though severely and painfully, is not dangerously wounded. His escape may well be considered as nearly miraculous. In the dusk of the evening, while collecting his Brigade after a most successful charge in which he had driven a much larger force of the enemy and taken almost three hundred prisoners, he was wounded. We are glad to get him, except it is from the commands of subalterns, thick as leaves in Valdembra, all over the land? It is not to impose hardships upon them, that they are called for, but to save their country and all they hold dear, from overthrow and ruin. Could they look at it in this, the true light, surely they would need no other propelling power to induce them to rush to the front and join our veteran troops in repelling the foe.

There is said to be from eight to ten thousand men, of conscription age, belonging to the State government of North Carolina alone.

There is, perhaps, an equal number in each of the State governments of Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia. Here, then, are thirty or forty thousand men, which, if added to Lee's or Hood's army in the next thirty days, would enable them to sweep Grant or Sherman from before them as with a broom of destruction.

Besides these thirty or forty thousand men, there is doubtless a large number still who are detailed for special duty or for special purposes. Some of these details, as the Richmond *Disposer* has observed, are absolutely necessary—the agricultural details, for instance. The army and the people must be fed; crops must be planted and gathered; yet we are satisfied great reforms might be made in this department, without reducing the supply of agricultural products, but greatly increasing the strength of the army. In some sections, we admit, too many men have been taken off—this is especially the case in our western counties where there are few negroes—but in other sections too many have been left, if the distribution of the burdens of war with impartiality, be an object with those having authority, as we are sure it is.

Then there are the thousands of able-bodied men employed in quartermaster, cavalry, engineers, ordnance, gunners and even conscription departments, kept there in violation of law. Add to these the other thousands who, through the parsimony or remissness of enrolling officers, are not for-warded to the army, and you swell the number to seventy-five, or it may be, one hundred thousand men, who, of right, belong to, and by wrong are withheld from, the active service.

Now, what could not be done, if these, or even half of them, were added to Lee's and Hood's armies? That they are and will be needed, no one can doubt. The enemy, there can be no question, will bring to bear his whole power during the remaining weeks of the Fall campaign. Already Grant is being reinforced, and he is moving for a vigorous assault upon our right wing that protects the South Side railroad. Sherman will also be heavily reinforced when he will make a desperate effort to penetrate still farther into Georgia and crush Hood's army. With their armies replenished, who fears the results?

The crisis is upon us. Let State Legislatures, Governors, and the Confederate authorities look to it, that every available man be forthwith sent to the front.

George P. Morris, now unhappily no more, made a good deal of capital by his poetical exchange with a certain "woodman" to "spare that tree." We fear that more than one woodman in our section will make more capital this year by neither sparing "that tree" nor the buyer of the cord wood sticks into which it may be divided. For one part, we would reverse the words of the song and say "Woodman don't spare that tree" nor the other ones. Cut them down and bring them to market; but oh, spare the poor buyers in town! Sell the fuel for a little less than its weight in Coal—let the saints and the sinners here in Wilmington have something to keep the vital warmth in their bodies for a while longer. Let them have a stick now and then to cook their victuals. It won't require much for that purpose. Upon the whole, we say—we would sing if we knew how—Woodman cut that tree, spare not a single bow, in winter we will eat it all, we want a little now.

—The *Wilmington Journal*.

A letter to Capt. James E. Allen, of this county, from his son, N. M. Allen, a prisoner of war at Point Lookout, dated August 28th, has the following paragraph, which we copy for the information of the friends named:

"The members of our company here, (Co. G, 6th N. C.) Sergt. Lyons, W. L. Morris, A. A. Lewis, W. Wimberly, S. B. Yates, C. Esbacks, Wm. Burgess, W. Yeargin, G. W. Varner, G. P. Cheek, Ed. Parrish, S. McMillen, and M. T. Horton, desire you to let their people know that they are here, and well."

We call attention to the advertisement in this paper, of rare and valuable Law Books offered the public. It is very seldom that such works are offered for sale; and those desiring them should apply soon, as they will no doubt be soon disposed of.

WITHIN the past few days the price of corn in Cumberland, S. C., has declined from twenty-five to twelve dollars per bushel. Beef, bacon and other articles have also declined in price.—*Savannah News.*

We do not know where "Cumberland, S. C." is; but we would suppose, are there any vacant houses in or near the place, to be let out by landlords who recognize the doctrine of a future life of rewards and punishments?

The last sensational news at the North is entitled "Guthrie's Cave," seen in East Tennessee—here a Yankee school master.

Subscribe to the "Confederate."

Strange Information.

It seems to be regarded as an exhibition of personal unfriendliness, by all who are and have by any means kept out of the army, for any one to advocate a policy that shall place in the ranks, where they are so much needed, the thousands of able-bodied men who are occupying places that can as well be filled by those totally incompetent for field service. Those who have all along kept out of the war, seem to be oblivious to the fact, that what our Generals need now to enable them to secure important and permanent victories, is more men. How are they to get them, except it is from the commands of sub-

alterns, and detailed men, thick as leaves in

Valdembra, all over the land?

It is not to impose hardships upon them, that they are called for, but to save their country and all they hold dear, from overthrow and ruin.

—*From the London Shipping Gazette, August 24.*

LONDON, August 24.—The supposed capture

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formerly in the Confederate service, but lately

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[From the Dublin *Freeman's Journal*, August 24.]

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THE CONFEDERATE.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1861.

It is wonderful to conceive how quick a stimulus the capture of Atlanta has proven to the yankees energies. This gullible and ready to be gullied people see in it a new and great victory—they style Atlanta “the great rebel stronghold of the South-west;” they listen in rapt and awful stillness while the same journals, whose occupation it has been for four years to magnify their success, decant in seeming earnestness on the wide scope, the far-reaching result, the indisputable importance of this victory, so great in itself.” And they are again deceived, again roused to furious enthusiasm—again willing to volunteer; and all under the delusion that the Confederacy, or “rebellion,” as they term it, is “tottering,” and that they may soon hope to witness its overthrow. They lose sight of the fact, that this very paper from which this extract is taken, in another column of the same issue, admits that all its bravado is to effect Lincoln’s election. To this end, soldiers are to be enlisted, battles are to be fought, and victories are to be magnified out of all proportion when gained, and to be feigned when they cannot be gained. Notwithstanding this, yankeedom bows down its neck and continues to worship at the altar of deception and delusion. Hear the acclaim of this grandiloquent: “The rebel military force in the South-west can now find no point in all their territory of anything like its (Atlanta) strength or value, and their army must soon break up into small and predatory hordes, which also will in due time be exterminated.” With what happy facility this charming finale is arrived at!—The wonderful Governor Raymond, whom Forney praises—the descriptive hero of Magenta and Solferino, and the “quadrilateral”—more widely and better known in New York as the “little villain”—the editor of one of those city sheets who never takes sides on important questions without due consideration—who is hunted by manipulators in the opening of every political contest, and is exponent for that side which pays best: in other words, a Hessian of the press, who carries on his face the advertisement “for hire or sale”—looks with an cool complacency and talks with a fluent satisfaction of the extermination of our people, as though that were some simple and gentle corrective, rather than a butchery, a slaughter, a bloody annihilation.

Well, let his people go on and catch the delusion of this repetition of deceit, falsehood and fabrication. Let them again come to the harvest of death. If they have not yet learned the duplicity of their leaders—if they have forgotten the oft-repeated promises of the speedy “suppression of the rebellion,” which have again and again been made to them, now yet to be fulfilled, then they will come on again, and suffer more hardships, and fight more battles, and submit to more slaughter, to gratify the “Radicals” and help on Mr. Lincoln’s election.

We are fully aware of the worth and value of Atlanta. We know its strength and importance of position; we know too our own resources; and we know to-day that Sherman’s army is in a more perilous position than it has yet been in. We know that Georgia possessed within herself abundance of men and means thoroughly to destroy him and his army, if she have the manhood and energy to bring them out. We know, too, that in order to consummate this their single success of this campaign, that they have been obliged to relinquish Texas, most of Louisiana, and Arkansas; that they have been obliged to uncover the approaches to Missouri, where our forces are anxiously awaited, and that our whole situation is infinitely better than it was this time last year. All this we know—and then when we look around on the untouched resources for soldiers that absolutely fill the vision in every direction—what makes our people for a moment quail before a mere reverse, or hesitate about their capacity or determination to carry through the work which is before us?

Some things are to be learned, however, ought to have been learned long ago. In Atlanta there were many among her citizens who were professing loyalty and devotion.—They were suspected, but allowed to remain, and there they are now—having taken the oath of allegiance and justified the suspicions that were entertained of them. Who can tell how much of valuable information these traitors who have lately danced at the Yankee ball given at the Trout House in honor of the fall of Atlanta, have communicated to their allies while Atlanta was besieged? Until the traitors who infest us can be reached and expelled, the Southern Confederacy will fight at disadvantage. That it will have an ultimate success we do not doubt; and then to every man to whom has attached distrust or suspicion, there will be woe enough. But it is high time for the authorities to look after the loyalty of the citizens. Justice to the soldier long ago demanded more stringency. It cannot be compared with right of liberty, that toryism shall flourish, under whatever cover, right in the midst of our communities, and be let alone.

We copy from the Georgia *Constitutional* the following hopeful view of the situation. It should command heed to all croakers:

THE TRUE ISSUE.

As the smoke clears away we see the effect of the explosion, and as day drags slowly after day, the disaster at Atlanta becomes less and less irreparable.

Little by little the hideous stories of loss and demoralization dwindle away from their first overshadowing magnitude to the slender proportions of truth. The loss of four thousand has turned out to be only a meagre fifteen hundred—fifteen hundred to many, God knows, but still only fifteen hundred.—The scores of siego pieces deserted have resolved themselves into four of the least serviceable heavy guns; the hundreds of engines and cars destroyed stand in official figures as seven of the former and four score odd of the latter; and the innumerable demoral-

ized deserters fade away to the contemptible reality of a few militia who, like Hotspur’s courier, cannot abide these vile guns.

But one of all the grisly batch of last week’s rumors holds its own, and that is the sombre talisman which spoke the fall of the beautiful Gate City.

Unobscured now by the smoke we review the field, and, with no other purpose than an honest desire to speak the whole truth, find absolutely nothing to indicate that utter, speedy, and inevitable ruin so many have suffered an excited imagination to portray.

Atlanta is gone to be sure, but this Confederacy is no house of cards to topple at a single blow. Its fall is not necessarily that of Atlanta, nor that in turn of Georgia, nor that again of this whole great country into one common ruin. The city, and State, and Government are not like so many bricks set up all of a row, where the fall of the first brings down all the balance.

The loss of our position—be it ever so strong—is not our death blow, nor are we yet reduced as that any fifteen hundred casualties can leave us utterly without defence.

Blessed be God in whom; it is our Confederate motto, *It is Our Trust*, these Confederate States have many high places yet to be humbled and many sons yet to be hewn down, before in the language of Scripture, our walls shall be broken and our people led away captive.

But the army is beaten, and Atlanta is gone, and the enemy may march where he will. Granted. It is the fortune of war that he should sometimes win a battle or capture a city. It is their turn to-day and may be ours to-morrow. The rain falls on the just and the unjust, and victory declares as well for the bad as for the good. We cannot expect to have all the fairest weather to ourselves, and should console us amid the howling of the tempest by remembering how soon the sunshine follows the storm.

In the long run, the rain profits only the just, and victory declares at length for the good and the final sunrise gleams upon the Right, while the Wrong is hidden in clouds.

McClellan’s Letter.

Some contemporary has well said, that it makes one’s blood tingle, to see how coolly McClellan ignores the sacrifices of the South, and that her best blood has been shed in this struggle, and elevates the sacrifices of a mongrel horde of Irish, Germans, English, Negroes, Yankees and Ottawa Indians. Says the “Young Napoleon”—“I could not look in the face of my gallant comrades of the army and navy, and tell them that their labor and the sacrifice of so many of our slain and wounded brethren had been in vain.”

Are the long lines of Confederate dead to go for nothing? What of our ruined homes and blasted hearts?

The faint-hearted may be willing to forget their wrongs for inglorious ease; but the true-hearted will never consent to a Union which tramples upon the graves of husbands, sons and brothers—never seek companionship with the demons who have made blood their portion and tears their dower.

God willing, as we have maintained our birth-right against the assaults of Lincoln, we shall likewise maintain it against the blandishments and threats of his wish-to-be successor.

Cavalry Arms and Accoutrements.

We have been requested to call the special attention of the people of this State, to the orders of Gen. Lee and Brig. Gen. Barringer, for the recovery of cavalry arms and accoutrements. The brigade of Gen. Barringer is among the best in the service, but it has suffered much in the almost constant battles and skirmishes in which it has been engaged since May last. Its efficiency is much impaired for the want of carbines, saddles and other cavalry accoutrements of the best kind; and there is no doubt of the fact that these are now to be found in private hands in almost every portion of the State. They have been taken from the battle-field as trophies of war, or when captured from prisoners, have been sent and often sold, contrary to orders, to soldiers or other persons returning to the State from the army of Northern Virginia. We call on the private citizens of this State to see that these arms and equipments are returned to good service in the field, and we urge the public press to join in this appeal. If they are not returned by this means, other and more stringent measures will be adopted by those having the power.

Terrible Railroad Collision.

We learn of a terrible Railroad collision occurred Wednesday, on the North Carolina Railroad, near Morrisville, about twelve miles West of this city. The mail train due in this city at 9th o’clock was somewhat behind-time, and was dashing on at considerable speed, when it came in contact with a freight train. The concussion was tremendous—on of the locomotives was terribly smashed and thrown off the track, and the other greatly broken up. The cars of both trains were also broken and damaged to a great extent the debris piling up the track so that it will take a day or two to remove the rubbish.

A passenger who walked to this city, was unable to inform us of the names of the passengers injured, but said several were hurt, only one, however, seriously, whose name he was unable to learn. Our informant said he was told he was a member elect to the Legislature from Robeson county, and was returning home from the army. Both his legs were broken, and he was greatly bruised about his breast and throat. It was thought his injuries would most probably prove fatal.

A train was dispatched to bring down the passengers and mail, but had not returned when this was written.

We learn that David Bethune, Esq., Robeson, is the gentleman injured.

The Richmond *Sentinel*, of Tuesday say we have accounts of recruits to our army pouring in from beyond the lines, which a very cheering, but the details of which would not be prudent to publish. We extol to these brave allies a hearty welcome, and accord to them their merited praise.

Strange Information.

It seems to be regarded as an exhibition of personal unkindness, by all who are and have by any means kept out of the army, for any one to advocate a policy that shall place in the ranks, where they are so much needed, the thousands of able-bodied men who are occupying places that can as well be filled by those totally incompetent for field service. Those who have all along kept out of the war, seem to be oblivious to the fact, that our Generals need now to enable them to secure important and permanent victories, is *more men*. How are they to get them, except it be from the thousands of shade office and detailed men, thick as “leaves in Valambross,” all over the land? It is not to impose hardships upon them, that they are called for, but to save their country and all they hold dear, from overthrow and ruin.—Could they look at it in this, the true light, surely they would need no other propelling power to induce them to rush to the front and join our veteran troops in repelling the foe.

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Then there are the thousands of able-bodied men employed in quartermaster, commissary, (State and National) fitting and even conscription departments, kept there in violation of law. Add to these the other thousands who, through the partiality or remissness of enrolling officers, are not forwarded to the army, and you swell the number to seventy-five, or it may be, one hundred thousand men, who, of right, belong to us and by wrong are withheld from, the active service.

Now, what could not be done, if these, or even half of them, were added to Lee’s and Hood’s armories? That they are and will be needed, no one can doubt. The enemy, there can be no question, will bring to bear his whole power during the remaining weeks of the Fall campaign. Already Grant is being reinforced, and he is moving for a vigorous assault upon our right wing that protects the South Side railroad. Sherman will also be heavily reinforced, when he will make a desperate effort to penetrate still farther into Georgia and crush Hood’s army. With their armies replenished, who fears the result?—The crisis is upon us. Let State Legislatures, Governors, and the Confederate authorities look to it, that every available man be forthwith sent to the front.

George P. Morris, now unhappily no more, made a good deal of capital by his practical request to a certain “woodman” to “spare that tree.” We fear that more than one woodman in our section will make more capital this year by neither sparing “that tree” nor the buyer of the cord wood sticks into which it may be divided. For our part, we would reverse the words of the song and say “Woodman don’t spare that tree” nor the other ones. Cut them down and bring them to market; but oh, spare the poor buyers in town! Sell the fuel for a little less than its weight in gold—let the saints and the sinners here in Wilmington have something to keep the vital warmth in their bodies for a while longer. Let them have a stick now and then to cook their victuals. It won’t require much for that purpose. Upon the whole, we say—we would sing if we knew how—Woodman cut that tree, spare not, a single bow, in winter we will need it all, we want a little now.—*Wilmington Journal*.

We make a like appeal to the woodmen about Raleigh. Spare neither pins nor oak, nor saplings slim and tall, where the ravens hoot and croak, and whip-poor-wills cry and squall. But send on the wood—anything broken up. The cars of both trains were also broken and damaged to a great extent the debris piling up the track so that it will take a day or two to remove the rubbish.

A passenger who walked to this city, was unable to inform us of the names of the passengers injured, but said several were hurt, only one, however, seriously, whose name he was unable to learn. Our informant said he was told he was a member elect to the Legislature from Robeson county, and was returning home from the army. Both his legs were broken, and he was greatly bruised about his breast and throat. It was thought his injuries would most probably prove fatal.

A train was dispatched to bring down the passengers and mail, but had not returned when this was written.

We learn that David Bethune, Esq., Robeson, is the gentleman injured.

Every day the telegraph brings a message that Sheridan is chasing Early up the Valley. We wonder at this, for though we know that old friend Jubal was pretty weak of a “Pec,” we thought Sheridan was more of a “Hound than a Fox.” It is unnecessary to state, but our people may rest assured that it is in the right place.

SUBSCRIBE to the “Confederate.”

The Situation.

The Richmond *Advertiser* has a striking leader upon the situation of affairs with the two great confronting armies around Petersburg and Atlanta. It assumes that the fall of Atlanta ends the campaign in Georgia—that there is nothing more there that will justify the enemy in keeping their present large force in that State—and that after garrisoning Atlanta and having no desire to penetrate farther into the interior of Georgia, Sherman will be free to render aid to Grant, and with Grant, Sherman’s and Sheridan’s armies combined, the second campaign of this fall will be undertaken between this and the November election, by an attack upon Richmond—Grant from Petersburg, Sheridan from up the Valley, and Sherman from Fredericksburg and the White House, or perhaps both places.

After this expose of the military chess board, and after showing the extremely hazardous policy of Sherman’s attempting a further advance into Southern Georgia, the *Advertiser* says, we therefore, are of the opinion that the next two months will witness the bloodiest conflicts this war has witnessed, and that immediately around Richmond will be the theatre of the conflicts.

This is all speculation, and may never take place; but it has probability enough to warn our people to prepare for a conflict before which the battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania Court House, Gaines’ Mill and Petersburg are but skirmishes.

Punishments.

The Goldsboro *State Journal*, of Saturday, is apparently outraged at the sentence passed on Lt. Watson lately, and ordered to be advertised in the papers of the Confederacy. It says the sentence is brutal, and the *Journal* regrets to see it published—for one, it will not publish it. It says, furthermore, “Far better had they sent the culprit to be shot.”

We don’t know anything of Lt. Watson’s case, but as a general thing we do not see the matter in the same light as the *Journal*.

When an officer takes a commission, he vouches for his own courage, and when he

cowardly runs away, he jeopardizes the nation, loses the victory, always entails destruction upon those lives it is his duty to guard and direct. His crime is so base that it is pronounced a capital offence, and forfeits his own life. The *Journal* says it is “far better for him to be shot.” But the culprit does not agree with the *Journal*; for he runs away from the risk of being shot. The *Journal* says “the punishment (of publishing) extends to the father, mother, brother, sister, of the unfortunate being.” Well how would it be if he was shot? Why, every paper in the land would publish the fact. The *Journal* itself, perhaps, would; so that punishment would “extend” the same way; and more than this, it would be permanent; for the culprit being dead, he could never redeem his character; but here, he is dismissed; he becomes liable to conscription as a private; is returned to the ranks, fights, and doesn’t run, and he incites the old stain—the stigma is removed from “father, mother, brother and sister.” Upon the whole, being shot, as well as being hung, “is the worse use you can put a man to.”

Registration of Exempts and Detailed Men.

The War Department has ordered the registration of all male white persons between the ages of seventeen and fifty years who are not now actually in the field, or in the reserves, and also of all boys who will attain to the age of seventeen within the next twelve months, with the month in which they will become seventeen. The grounds of exemption or detail will also have to be given. Under this order, Captain Coke, the enrolling officer for this district, will proceed with the registration without delay.

The Auction Business.

Every thing, almost, in the way of trade, is conducted now—a-days through Auction or public sale avenues. If a man has an old coat, or a lady a discarded bonnet, or the government an old horse, or any body else anything to sell, he is afraid to dispose of it privately, lest he fail to get the very last cent that some body else would give. Hence our Auction houses are doing a thriving business. Go to Crouch & Litchford’s, Tucker & Andrews’, or Towles’ Auction rooms, and you find them crowded with just a little of every thing—and a few more articles besides. They have something to eat and something to wear, something to drink and something to smoke, something to sit on and something to lie on, something from the lemon, from the anvil, from the field, from the smoke-house, from the blockade—indeed something of everything almost, may be found at the Auction rooms.

UNION OF PRESBYTERIANS.—At a meeting of the United Synod of the Presbyterian Church, in Lynchburg, last week, a Union was consummated between the two churches of the Presbyterian church in the Confederate States, known as the Old School and New School. The first actual coming together of the ministers in Virginia, will be at the meeting of the Synod of Virginia, in Lexington, in October next.

This is the kind of Union we are all pleased to hear of—union among ourselves, ecclesiastical and political. Is this kind of union there in strength?

FROM THE VALLEY.—The Petersburg *Advertiser* comes from a gentleman who left Winchester on Thursday last, that all was quiet in the Valley, with the exception of occasional cavalry skirmishes. The present location of our army it is unnecessary to state, but our people may rest assured that it is in the right place.

The “Church Intelligence,” formerly published in this city, has been revived, and is now issued from the Protestant Episcopal Publishing House of Charlotte, N. C. George M. Swartz, Editor. It is the monthly organ of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of the Southern States. Terms—\$2 for three months; \$10 for six months.

News by yesterday’s Mail.

The Petersburg *Express* of Saturday, says:

A portion of the enemy’s skirmish line in front of Wilson’s Division, on our right, was surprised yesterday morning, and eighty-eight prisoners, including one commissioned officer, were taken. The prisoners are mostly from the 1st and second Maryland regiments, and some few from the 5th N. Y. Heavy Artillery, of Warren’s corps. It is not lately reinforced, we are of the opinion that Warren’s corps cannot now muster more than the strength of a good division, as his losses on the Weldon road have been enormous.

The Yankees have shown no further disposition to advance their lines in the direction of the South-side railroad, since their failure on Tuesday. They have, probably, discovered that a strong independent force is in their way, and that would bring on a general engagement, and their defeat would certainly be the result. At the same time they do not like to lose any of their men without an equivalent. The capture of their pickets by General Devol’s brigade on Friday night increased the Yankees’ anxiety to their picket line.

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THE CONFEDERATE.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1864.

The purpose of the enemy to attack Wilmington, and that speedily, is now developed. We may suppose, at first, with reason, that a *attack* on the town itself may not be within the means the enemy can spare at this time, but it would not be well to rely upon such a supposition. Some policy would recommend a thorough preparation for this, as for other contingencies. Added to our other reasons, which are sufficient to satisfy us of the purpose of the enemy, we copy the following communication from a late number of the *New York Times*. It is evident the production of some miserable wretch who has been permitted to pass our lines either at Newbern, or Wilmington, and who avails himself of his Yankee identity to encourage the intended attack up in the people among whom he resides.

We do not mean in copying the article, to adopt the harsh and gross sentiments expressed towards Gen. Whiting, nor is it to his discredit that so base a recreant abases him; but we should fail to do our duty to the State and our cause if, if we withheld the fact that a very large portion of our people do not have confidence in this officer for that command; and desire either that one of higher grade should supersede him, or that some other should be substituted for him. This is a fact, well known; and if Gen. Whiting should be retained at Wilmington, and the Forts below are lost, there will go forth against the administration a force and general accusation. We do not intend to discuss Gen. Whiting's merits or demerits, nor to indicate our own opinion on the points which we feel bound to notice. If Wilmington is worth defending, it is worth defending successfully—worth defending to the death. It will require a commanding officer of patient, calm, unswerving temperament, who will not be liable to lose his balance by any extraneous circumstance. It will require not only this patience, calmness and freedom from excitement, but it will call for the possession not only of ordinary, but of indomitable nerve. About the commanding officer there will require to be an indifference to danger that its presence cannot shake. It will require a vigorous discriminating and judge of character, for the selection of officers within the Forts, and the men to be used under them must be of the kind that will know no surrender—of the stamp who will forget Forts Sumter and Morgan, and remember Fort Sumter. Let us have a Fleet at every fortification below Wilmington. By this we do not mean to question those already there, for we do not know them; but to define the qualities needed.

Troops that have been under fire and are accustomed to it, if they can be furnished, is a great desideratum. How these are to be supplied, it is not best for us to indicate. We know an officer, now wounded in this city, to whom the superintendence of the defense of the works at the mouth of Cape Fear and of Wilmington, might be entrusted with a safe conviction that whatever nerve and endurance could accomplish, would be forthcoming, and we believe likewise, whatever of sound judgement, discretion and skill. We allude to Gen. Clingman, whose military career, without being pushed by the help of luck, has been one continued series of danger, accompanied by acts of usefulness, which have not yet had their reward. If General Clingman's wound will allow, Wilmington, in our opinion, could not be in safer hands.

But this defense of Wilmington fails properly under Governor Vance's direction, to some extent. The President will undoubtedly listen favorably to suggestions from him; and the moment is opportune, if he can make suggestions which will ensure the safety of this important post. We see no reason why Wilmington should be lost. On the contrary, North Carolina is this very moment possessed of the strength not only to save Wilmington, but to capture Newbern; and the best mode of saving Wilmington is by capturing Newbern. Between now and the last of this month, the rivers of this State will be easily navigable; indeed we may look for freshets by that time. The Governor and the Commanding Officer of Reserves may organize a force sufficient to sit down before Newbern and compel its surrender. There is no difficulty in controlling the enemy's boats on the river. One night can accomplish that work, and a dozen guns securely placed, which will make their location untenable. The garrison is known to be small, and in this moment isolated from reinforcements. A few veterans to show the way, backed by the force that the State could readily furnish, with pluck and determination worthy of the enterprise, and we may anticipate the enemy at Wilmington, by recovering Newbern. But if this project is considered too adventurous, then by all means let us look to Wilmington, and by the selection of the right sort of men, secure its safety.

We confess when we look around this State and see how some incomprehensible policy keeps out of service so much strength, and youth, and vigor; when we see further, that certain judges never let go a chance to deprive the service of a fit subject, it is dismaying in the extreme. But we look again to the Governor, and trust to find in a prompt, energetic and independent Governor, and a quick, active, industrious and courageous Adjutant General, the elements of success in our division.

Here is the article from the *New York Times*, above referred to:

Importance of the Capture of Wilmington.

To the Editors of the *New York Times*:

I am glad to see that attention is being

called to the importance of Wilmington, as one of the points that should be possessed and held by the United States.

I am familiar with that section of country, and to hold Wilmington, Lee might well consent to more rashness than he has ever yet shown as commander of the rebel forces. To-day the South is far from being self-sufficient, though in much better condition in that respect than when the war broke out. Her energies have been completely bent toward improving her manufacture of every description; still, without the assistance of blockade-runners, powder, arms, shoes, etc., could not be supplied to the army another six months.

At Wilmington, W. H. C. Whiting, a drunken military tyrant, is in command. Recently he was disgraced on the field near Petersburg, and immediately placed in command of his old post. There must be a scarcity of laborers to do the drudgery work of construction, or such vulgar material would not be used, even by the *Republique*.

Many years experience in the South, and up to within a few months, enables me to state facts, and renders it necessary for me to guess at nothing. And here, let me say, the importance your correspondent attaches to the part of Wilmington is beyond question. I capture will do more toward ending this Democratic Jeff Davis Southern arrogance than any other thing to be accomplished. Get even Weldon, sixty miles below Petersburg, destroy the long bridge crossing the Roanoke there, and that done, no bridge could be erected by rebel soldiers or rebel civilians, during the next year.

It will be telling an oft-told tale if I repeat the most intolerable despotism that ever disgraced the face of the earth; but so is the rule of Davis and his dynasty. There is no freedom of speech, conscience, or thought in the S. S. under his authority. And, Mr. Editor, there never had been any such thing as liberty known to the people, since the adoption of the constitution up to the time when it was adopted.

The resolution as adopted is misnamed. The *county* of Orange has been making provision to supply food to the families of soldiers and other needy persons; and the true sense of the Justices' resolve is, that the citizens of the county will sell to the county for the use of the needy, one-tenth of their produce at the commissioners' rates. Mr. Cameron was appointed one of a committee to invoke the citizens generally to comply with the resolution of the Justices, which was done in a published address. He succeeded in it as a good thing as far as it went, without frustrating or prescribing it as a limit for the public charity, or a limit to his own efforts to alleviate the sufferings incidental to the times.

The writer of this is in no way connected with Mr. Cameron, but has made this explanation in justice to him as well as others, lest an article in a recent number of the *Standard* newspaper may prejudice some well-disposed person against the individuals concerned.

Mr. Cameron does not, I suppose, in a boast of his charity, but exalts to practice this virtue under the gospel injunction. Nevertheless, hardly a day passes that does not disclose to his neighbors a most liberal bestowment of the means with which God has blessed him, upon such objects as may properly claim the good will of a patriot and Christian.

The Legislature.

There is much important business for this body to act upon; and according to our observation the interests of the country require immediate legislation. Unquestionably the force in the field is too small, and the reinforcement of our armies, to be efficacious, ought to be immediate. Grant is calling for a hundred thousand men, to be furnished "promptly;" declaring that the military resources of the South are exhausted, and prescribing that many as the required number to ensure the "suppression of the rebellion."

The Legislature, if in session, could provide to furnish Gen. Lee with reinforcements. It could make a thorough examination of all the *shady* places which have involved so much denunciation, and could see to it that the able-bodied were transferred to the field and their places filled by those equally capable of light duty but unfit for field service. The Legislature could provide for furnishing to the Confederacy the militia officers and justices of the peace, whose presence in the army would not only add to its strength, but would remove dissatisfaction from among the soldiers and among their kindred at home. It could do much to aid in the restoration of the finances—it could make successful war on hoarding and extortion—all of which questions press for immediate legislation. Besides, there is no doubt but the necessities of this community, with its destitute families, its large hospitals and its extra population of refugees, will be severely stinted in fuel and provisions during the winter. In the month of October there will be sufficient mild weather to enable the members to sit without or with but little fire, and fuel will be spared against the demands of winter for the necessities who are obliged to remain here. The vegetables will not be exhausted in October, poultry, and butter, and eggs will still be in the market, and supplies of food will be more readily obtained. These are matters that in ordinary times would not be of sufficient importance to attract attention, but in view of the coming winter, with the suffering and privation it must necessarily engender, they ought to be considered. And we throw out these suggestions to invite the consideration of the press and the authorities. It is apparent that there will be a strain on the public to weather this winter, and the presence of one hundred and seventy additional population during the severest period, will materially increase here the burdens of living. It all can be done at an earlier session, and indeed if it be true, as it undoubtedly is, that prompt legislation on many questions is now a matter of great importance, we see no reason why the Legislature may not be called for the first of October, rather than commence its regular session on the third Monday of November.

Be of good courage; the day is ours. A few more hard blows—a little more suffering, peril and endurance—and the independence of the Confederate States will be won.

Let patience, fortitude and zeal have their perfect work. Let none draw back in this day of trial, and they will feel themselves amply compensated when the song of peace shall be heard from center to circumference of this young Confederacy.

The above is an extract of a letter from a gentleman in Eastern North Carolina, writing to renew his subscription to the *Confederate*; and we quote it for the purpose of placing the true and courageous sentiments it contains, in contrast with the sickly, if not treasonable cry of those who declare the South is "exhausted," and it were best for us to make terms with the enemy while we may—any terms, to avert our certain doom—subjugation. This craven feeling, thanks to the courageous hearts of our brave and indomitable people, perishes but few breaths. Our people believe in our ability to maintain our cause—everything indicates strength, and a former purpose animates them that at any former time, to contend until our national independence is attained.

We confess when we look around this State and see how some incomprehensible policy keeps out of service so much strength, and youth, and vigor; when we see further, that certain judges never let go a chance to deprive the service of a fit subject, it is dismaying in the extreme. But we look again to the Governor, and trust to find in a prompt, energetic and independent Governor, and a quick, active, industrious and courageous Adjutant General, the elements of success in our division.

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P. C. Cameron, Esq.

We had learned of the injustice done the gentleman whose name heads this paragraph, in a recent number of the *Standard*, remarking upon the action of the Justices of Orange county, and holding him responsible for the alleged want of patriotism and generosity. But we were of the opinion that his defense would best come from Mathews, where all the facts in the matter were known, and Mr. Cameron's action was fully understood. Yesterday we received some defense from a gentleman who we are assured volunteers in his defense purely from a motive to do justice to a misrepresented fellow citizen. The defense is simple and disinterested, which we subjoin:

For the Confederates.

The animated versions made upon the resolution of the Justices of Orange, in relation to food for the needy of the county, and upon Mr. P. C. Cameron especially, in connection with that subject, calls, it is believed, for a word of explanation.

Whatever merit or demerit there may be in the resolution, it is due to all concerned to say it does not belong to Mr. Cameron. He is not a Justice of the county, and took no part, therefore, in proposing the measure. Being accidentally present, he did suggest a substitute for the measure adopted, viz.: that the producers of the county should make a *donation* of one-tenth of their produce to the use of the poor. This, however, was not approved, on the ground that it would not be generally complied with, but would fall on a few of the most liberal, and thus turn out to be inefficient as a measure of relief.

The resolution as adopted is misnamed. The *county* of Orange has been making provision to supply food to the families of soldiers and other needy persons; and the true sense of the Justices' resolve is, that the citizens of the county will sell to the county for the use of the needy, one-tenth of their produce at the commissioners' rates. Mr. Cameron was appointed one of a committee to invoke the citizens generally to comply with the resolution of the Justices, which was done in a published address.

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Importance of the Capture of Wilmington.

To the Editors of the *New York Times*:

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The *Confederate*—The Georgia Frost.

The Yankees having withdrawn their lines toward Atlanta, our forces occupied Jonesboro' and the entrencheds beyond, on Tuesday. Trains of cars ran now to that place, which is made the depot of supplies for the Army of Tennessee.

The general impression concerning the last movement of Sherman is, that he will retain his army in close proximity to Atlanta, and concentrate there large stores and supplies, preparatory to a final rapid advance during the autumn. Meanwhile, he will repair the Georgia railroad and have everything ready for a grand movement on Augusta at a fixed date.

Meanwhile he will annoy all portions of the country with raids, which may be very formidable and destructive, and which may attract the attention of our army to comparatively small movements, behind which he will march and operate those of a large and more dangerous character.

The reliable gentleman reports that Sherman planned forlornough to large numbers of his men soon as they occupied Atlanta, and that while he recuperates and organizes his efficiency he shattered and worn army, he will redeem his promise and allow the men that promised privilege. It is supposed that he will probably secure the defense of Atlanta and his lines of communication along the State road, and thus allow himself to weaken his army with impunity, by furloughing large numbers.

These speculations are very natural conclusions, but we doubt very much whether Sherman will pursue the policy proposed. A few weeks ago, he abandoned his works and immediate operations against Atlanta, and disappeared in apparent hot haste, making a sudden advance on our left that completely overwhelmed us by its magnitude and rapidity. Our army has learned that the utmost vigilance is necessary to secure our safety against the strategy of the Yankee General.

To compass his ends, he has had hitherto the immense machinery of war, in much larger numbers of men than we ever confronted him with, and in the immensity of all the engines that invention has applied to the destruction of armies. Henceforth the Yankee army will not be so formidable.

Our army is rapidly accumulating in strength and numbers. A large portion of those who were broken down by the hardships of the past few weeks, have recovered and are returning their places by hundreds daily. Numbers too, whose wounds were slight, are rapidly hurrying to their commands, earnest and anxious, to make the barrier our army presents, formidable and impregnable. Every measure that can be exerted, is in force to render the army effective and powerful as it should be, and knowing as well as we do, the elasticity, the invincibility and unconquerable spirit of the Army of Tennessee, we have no doubt that when again it presents its front to the lifted and haughty legions of Sherman's army, that it will be with an indomitable spirit of vengeance and redoubled onset, whose victory will repay us for all the disasters we have hitherto suffered.

Efficient consolidation and strict military discipline will affect more in our army than immunity of unwieldy numbers. Effective blow on the rear of Sherman, now, *he accumulates his material for a further prosecution of the campaign*, will do more than a successful battle to prevent him from advancing on Augusta, Milledgeville, Macon, or perhaps Montgomery, Selma and Mobile. The latter plan, it will be remembered, was threatened by the Yankee government several months ago.

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